

12-8-2017

## Daily Eastern News: December 08, 2017

Eastern Illinois University

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## WELCOME TO TRACK

Eastern's men's and women's track teams will head to the Early Bird track tournament at Lantz Field House Friday with 15 new members on the roster.

PAGE 7

## SHOOTING FOR CONSISTENCY

Eastern's women's basketball team hits the road on Friday to go against Fort Wayne and aim for a consistent and patient offense.

PAGE 8



# THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Friday, December 8, 2017

"TELL THE TRUTH AND DON'T BE AFRAID"

VOL. 102 | NO. 74

CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF COVERAGE

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## Faculty overload levels could lead to contractual violations

By Cassie Buchman  
Editor in Chief | @cjbuchman

Faculty departures and financial strains on the university have caused faculty members to take on an overload of work assignments, leading to departmental violations of the EIU-UPi contract.

Overload, as defined in the contract, is any course load that is more than 24 credit units a year. Anything over 33 credit units is not allowed.

"The reason for the rule, in general, is that if people are teaching 60, 70, 80 hours a week, the quality of instruction goes down," said EIU-UPi President Jon Blitz. "You teach too much and you start cutting corners in your classes, and you're not delivering as high a quality product or curriculum that you would be if you had the time to actually think about what you're doing."

Taking on overload is voluntary for all Unit A and Unit B faculty.

The EIU-UPi is currently in the process of collecting data on overload from past years.

According to numbers generated by Blitz, in the 2016-2017 academic year, six departments in two colleges, the Lumpkin College of Business and Applied Sciences and the College of Educational and Professional Studies, had faculty assigned more than 33 credit units.

Seventeen total faculty members were assigned to have these overloads.

The EIU-UPi has also looked at this academic year's data, though these numbers are tentative because spring workloads have not been finalized.

In 2017-2018, Blitz found that there are eight departments in three colleges, the College of Arts and Humanities, Lumpkin College of Business and the College of Educa-

tional and Professional Studies, which have faculty who have been assigned more than 33 credit units.

"What the problem here is it doesn't matter what you put in the contract if people don't follow it," Blitz said.

Blitz said the faculty union has brought up the fact that there have been contractual violations in these departments to the administration, but it has not filed a grievance.

Jeff Cross, associate vice president of academic affairs, said the administration has gone back to these departments to see how they can fix the situation.

He declined to comment specifically on what these discussions have entailed, but did say reviews have been ongoing ever since the concern about overload was expressed to the Office of Academic Affairs.

OVERLOAD, page 5

## Mother charged with murder in child's death

By Mike Santoria  
Contributing Writer | @DEN\_News

A Charleston woman was arrested and charged with first-degree murder Wednesday afternoon after police found her 2-year-old son dead in a portable playpen.

During a press conference on Thursday, State Attorney Brian Bower said Savannah Weiss, 22, of Charleston and the mother of the child, told police Wednesday that she left him unattended from 10 a.m. Friday until 6 p.m. Sunday.

Bower did not disclose Weiss' whereabouts over the weekend.

On Monday morning, police received a third party phone call regarding an unresponsive child located at 1052 First St.

The child was pronounced dead upon the police and paramedics' arrival.

Death, page 5

## Nursing changes courses to fit a shorter schedule

### CAA also approved a revised course, major

By Brooke Schwartz  
Administration Reporter | @brookesch\_wartz

Changes to different nursing programs, the replacement of two classes and a revised course and major were proposed and approved at the Council on Academic Affairs' last meeting of the semester on Thursday.

A new course titled Public Health Nursing was added to take the place of the Nursing in the Community course.

The number of credits for this new course will be reduced from the six credits contained in the Nursing Community course to three credits and will include no prerequisite class.

The new course will include a choice of three classes based out of health promotion that will complement this new course and will require each student to pick one of the three to take.

The Leadership and Management in Nursing program was also updated and reduced to three credit hours, with students needing to take a paired course in the organizational and professional development department.

Both of these course updates have to do with a shift nursing is making to a seven-week course schedule in an effort to allow students to take more courses a semester.

There was also a proposal to replace what is currently Pathophysiology and Pharmacology in Professional Nursing Practice with a new course called Pharmacogenomics in Nursing Practice.

This new course would focus more on how human genomes interact with pharmaceutical drugs and the symptoms that might arise from them as opposed to the more general pharmacology course that is currently being offered.

The new schedule and the courses affected by it were all passed by the CAA but will not be functional until 2019.

Nursing professor Renee Kidd-Marshall said the schedule and course changes will hopefully allow Eastern to turn out higher quality nursing students.

"I think we'll have a stronger student, a stronger nurse in the workforce and, definitely, a more experienced graduate," Kidd-Marshall said.

A health communications minor, with the health communications major just recently being added, was also updated at the meeting; health communications coordinator Elizabeth Gills said the minor had not been updated for eight to 10 years.

The biological sciences department added a new course titled Evolutionary Medicine that will be available for biological sciences majors, which professor Ann Fritz said is an area of interest for many students.

"There is a real connection that people feel to taking evolution and applying it in terms of human health," Fritz said.

The rural studies minor was also updated to change the U.S. rural history course from a core course to an elective, because a faculty member who routinely taught the course is leaving. A proposal on streamlining the process of changing majors was brought up, with many members agreeing that the process needs to be made easier for students.

Provost Jay Gatrell worried that making this process easier, while not making it all online, would just postpone a greater discussion involved parties need to have over how to make the process paperless and more easily available for online students.

Right now the process includes physically walking a folder from the old adviser to the new one.

All proposals passed unanimously, and the discussion of an online paperless way to change majors is expected to be continued outside the CAA.

Brooke Schwartz can be reached at 581-2812 or at bsschwartz@eu.edu.



BROOKE SCHWARTZ | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Renee Kidd-Marshall, a nursing professor, summarizes the change in the department with the newly-added programs during the Council on Academic Affairs' last meeting Thursday afternoon. The new programs include a public health nursing program, a pharmacogenomics in nursing practice and others.



## Local weather

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



Sunny  
High: 36°  
Low: 25°



Partly Cloudy  
High: 32°  
Low: 19°

## THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

"Tell the truth and don't be afraid."

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## About

The Daily Eastern News is produced by the students of Eastern Illinois University. It is published daily Monday through Friday, in Charleston, IL, during fall and spring semesters and online during the summer term except during university vacations or examinations. One copy per day is free to students and faculty. Additional copies can be obtained for 50 cents each in the Student Publications Office in Buzzard Hall.

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## Corrections

The Daily Eastern News is committed to accuracy in its coverage of the news. Any factual error the staff finds or is made aware of by its readers will be corrected as promptly as possible. Please report any factual error you find to Editor-in-Chief Cassie Buchman at 581-2812.

## Employment

If you would like to work for The Daily Eastern News as a reporter, photographer, columnist, cartoonist, copy editor, designer or videographer, please visit at the newsroom at 1811 Buzzard Hall.



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## STATE AND NATION

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## GOP lawmaker demands proof or apology for Rauner claim

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — A Republican lawmaker challenged GOP Gov. Bruce Rauner Thursday to prove his claim that the Democratic House speaker improperly influenced an autonomous agency's decision to cancel a state consulting contract.

Rep. David McSweeney said Rauner made a "really serious charge" when he alleged his political nemesis, Speaker Michael Madigan, pressured the state's independent monitor to end the \$12.5 million contract dealing with Medicaid services.

"I've seen no proof. I'd like to see proof, or the governor needs to apologize," the Barrington Hills Republican said.

Rauner's office did not respond to a request for elaboration or comment.

The demand came during a legislative hearing over a \$63 billion Medicaid overhaul by Rauner's Department of

Healthcare and Family Services. Part of that deal included a \$12.5 million, no-bid contract to consultant McKinsey & Co.

Healthcare director Felicia Norwood had argued the deal was exempt from an open bidding process under an exception in the procurement law for preparing for an anticipated lawsuit.

The chief procurement officer, Ellen Daley, who is appointed by the independent Executive Ethics Commission, found no evidence of that. She nullified the pact on Tuesday, finding it should have been offered to the lowest and best bidder.

Under Illinois law, the governor's administration awards contracts after a bidding process. The state's chief procurement department is supposed to decide, without political influence, whether the bidding followed protocol.

McSweeney made the demand in

Chicago during a hearing of the House Appropriations-Human Services Committee called to continue scrutiny of a \$63 billion plan to expand managed health care to low-income Medicaid patients.

Democrats say Daley took the action under tighter procurement restrictions that Rauner signed into law last summer after the Legislature bowed to his demand for purchasing reform. However, he criticized the changes Thursday as too weak, in part because of resistance from Madigan.

"He controls a lot of the procurement people through his patronage operation. He likes the current procurement system," Rauner said in remarks to the *Chicago Tribune*, adding that Madigan has "heavy influence" over Daley.

Madigan spokesman Steve Brown called it "empty talk." Daley did not respond to requests for comment.

## Ill. taxpayers will pay in-between rate on income due to tax increase

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — Illinois taxpayers will be paying an in-between rate on 2017 income as a result of the state's tax increase.

The Illinois Department of Revenue has calculated that the "blended" rate will be 4.35 percent for individual returns that are due in April, the *State Journal-Register* reported. The basic tax rate increased in July from 3.75 percent to 4.95 percent.

Department spokesman Terry Horstman said the rate is based on the number of days under the 3.75 percent and the days under the 4.95 percent rate.

Horstman said the state tax forms will use the blended rate to make it easier for taxpayers. He said the rate on returns applies to income earned from January through December.

The new rates combined with sales tax and other changes are expected to raise a little more than \$5.1 billion for fiscal 2018.

## US fails to enforce smog rules, states claim in lawsuit

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Fourteen states and the District of Columbia announced Thursday that they are suing the Trump administration over what they say is a failure to enforce smog standards.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has not designated any areas of the country as having unhealthy air, missing an Oct. 1 deadline, according to the lawsuit. Such areas must take steps to improve their air quality.

Poor air quality particularly affects the health of children, people with asthma and those who work outside, said California Attorney General Xavier Becerra, who led and announced the filing. The lawsuit says smog can cause or aggravate diseases including heart disease, bronchitis and emphysema.

"Lives can be saved if the EPA implements these standards," he said in a statement.

Becerra was joined by the attorneys general in Connecticut, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont and Washington state. Minnesota's Pollution Control Agency also joined the suit.

The EPA said the agency's policy is not to comment on litigation.

## Corrections:

In Wednesday's article "CAA voting over revisions for nursing," it should have said that the nursing major has always been an RN to BS program.

The changes being made will not affect that.

The News regrets the error.

In Wednesday's article, "Stress for Finals Week stored in Booth Library," it should have said The EIU Meditation Club will offer sessions at 5 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Sunday through Tuesday (Dec. 10-12).

It also should have said that Housing/Dining staffers will pass out healthy snacks at 9 a.m. and again at 3 p.m. this Friday, while supplies last.

The News regrets the error.

## TODAY ON CAMPUS

## Student Rec Center | Open 5:30 AM - 8:00 PM

The Student Rec Center offers six basketball courts, 1/8 mile suspended jogging track, two free-weight areas, cardio machines, and a student lounge.

## MLK Jr. Student Union | Open 7:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Check out Java B&B, Food Court, University Bookstore, EIU Bowling Lanes.

## Booth Library | Open 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Check out books, rent movies, and utilize study spaces.

## Finals Fuel | 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM | In Front of Coleman

Grab a snack and a hot drink on your way to class!



THALIA ROULEY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

People from the area attend open mic night at Jackson Avenue Coffee Thursday night. Everyone is welcome to attend or perform at the show, including musicians, poets and actors.



THALIA ROULEY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Jackson Avenue Coffee's open mic night included performers who started the night off with some winter-themed music. The JAC has open mic nights every Thursday.

## The JAC celebrates 12 years of open mic nights

By Eddie Hacker  
Contributing Writer | @DEN\_News

Ring in 12 years of business and closing in on over 500 open mic nights, Jackson Avenue Coffee has been one of the longest standing weekly venues for local performers.

Jackson Avenue Coffee, commonly known as The JAC to those who frequent it, offers coffee seven days a week.

From 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Thursdays at 708 Jackson Ave., however, the focus shifts to music.

This summer the open mic was the only option for amateur musicians.

Colin St. Michael, one of the organizers of the open-mic nights, said the eclectic audience the venue brings in makes it an ideal spot for performances.

"I fell in love with the vibe the first time I went. You had such a range of ages of people from senior citizens and retirees from children," St. Michael said.

It all began on Aug. 18, 2005 when Eastern students organized the JAC's first open mic night. Since then, it has turned into a Thursday tradition.

St. Michael handled the sign-up process and performer introductions after the original organizers graduated in the summer of 2006. He has been hosting it ever since.

St. Michael said though the open mic is only set to go to 9 p.m., some performances continue until nearly 10 p.m.

He said the open mic has lasted so long because

keeping the same day of the week and start time has allowed the crowd to grow.

"Most weeks we can get about 12 people, which is pretty remarkable to get that many new people each week in such a small town," he said.

Continuing for 12 years has been no easy feat, St. Michael said. He said during the summer months, as little as five people may show up, but every week seems to bring at least one new person.

Depending on how many people sign up, people can play up to three songs. As many as 30 people can sign up each week to perform.

Artists can be found sketching their work and writers jotting down poetry, all while musicians perform on a stage.

Charleston resident Caiman Martin said he enjoys going to these open mic nights to familiarize himself with other local musicians.

"The JAC has so much to offer. I've met some cool people just performing and then making plans to jam later," said Martin. "It's a place I can go and know there are other people homing in their art."

After coming to the open mic nights for over 5 years, they have become Martin's favorite performances to play.

"It's just crazy to me. I can walk in and always count on meeting at least one person I didn't know was practicing music in town," Martin said.

Eddie Hacker can be reached at 581-2812 or [dehacker@eiu.edu](mailto:dehacker@eiu.edu).

### TODAY'S BUILDING BREAKDOWN: Coleman Hall



#### The EIU Writing Center

The EIU Writing Center provides EIU students with writing assistance, proofreading help, and answers to any writing-related questions.

580 Coleman Hall  
(217) 581-9929

W - Th 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
F 8:00 AM - 9:00 PM  
S 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Director: Pam Kay  
Assistant Director: Joel Smith



#### Departments

Communication	Room 1260
English	Room 5105
Entrepreneurship	Room 2159
Foreign Languages	Room 1159
History	Room 2244
Political Science	Room 2135
Philosophy	Room 5142
Women's Studies	Room 5159

#### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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## Time flies



JALEN MASSIE | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

## Staff Editorial

## Finally, the final week

All that is left to do this semester is finals, so with most grades basically set in stone we try to convince ourselves the work is over. However, with projects, essays and studying still left to do, we should not start celebrating quite yet.

Heading into the weekend, it is easy to think we will accomplish everything we need to without a problem and still have time to celebrate the end of the semester in every possible way. While it is great to be optimistic, reality does not shift just because we are optimistic. If you do not make the commitment now and allot the appropriate amount of time to complete even the most simple task, it will not get done.

You will wake up Monday morning sick to your stomach, thinking of all the things you need to review before your final, which starts in 15 minutes. If people use their time wisely, this can be avoided. Setting realistic expectations can sometimes seem unambitious or boring, but it does not have to be.

After all, it is an essential skill for people to have so they can lead healthy and happy lives. It can help those who know how to use it accomplish more than they would otherwise. A person's priorities can even be revealed through using this tool.

Putting it into practice is fairly simple. Instead of thinking that you will somehow magically absorb all the information in your textbook by pulling an all-nighter Sunday night, pace yourself. Read a little tonight before going out and maybe some more on Saturday as well. Being realistic does not mean eliminating fun; it just means realizing how much you can do in a day and planning accordingly.

This includes weighing out just how much sleep you actually need and realizing when it is time to take a break from working hard. Sometimes, this can even mean accepting the fact that with a bunch of big projects coming due, something is going to get neglected.

This is the place where sorting out your priorities can mean the difference between being successful and failing. Should you study for chemistry all night and only spend a half hour the next day looking at English? Should you focus all your effort on that one project that might make or break your grade in one class when it means neglecting other classes you are unsure about?

There is no right answer that fits all, which is why you have to find out which choice is best for you. In every class there is always that one person who is so put together and confident they will get As in everything because that is just the way they are.

To those people: Congratulations, your drive and commitment are truly inspirational, and we do not know how you do it. To the rest of us out there: We need to remember most people struggle during this time. It is hard. Sickness is going around and, combined with stress, it may feel like everything piling up is just too much.

If you are realistic and make the time to do what you need to do to get through the rest of this semester, it will almost certainly pay off. Most importantly, be proud of yourself, because you are working toward creating a brighter future, and having a few challenges along the way does not change that.

The daily editorial is the majority opinion of the editorial board of *The Daily Eastern News*.

## Want to write a letter to the editor?

Email [opinions.den@gmail.com](mailto:opinions.den@gmail.com) or [deneic@gmail.com](mailto:deneic@gmail.com).

## A dog truly is a man's best friend

Without question, putting down my dog who I owned for 14 and a half years was one of the toughest things I had to deal with.

The thing that made it so tough was that I was here at Eastern, unable to go home. I wanted to be there for my dog, Bailey, but everything happened too quickly.

People will occasionally talk about their earliest memory. Sometimes they will say some massive world news thing was the first memory they have.

For me, it was the day I bought my dog Bailey. Bailey was a rescue dog, and we never knew exactly what kind of dog she was. We always called her a Swiss Mountain Dog. It was what looked closest.

Back to the day that my family bought her. Since she was a dog from a shelter, there were a few "rules" that had to be followed. One of those rules was that everyone in the household had to be a certain age.

The problem there was that my twin sisters Tara and Erin were still babies, well below whatever the age limit was to get Bailey.

My brother Ryan, my mom and I went to the shelter and were immediately set on Bailey. I don't know if it is because she is the one that we ended up deciding to give a life to or what, but she is the only dog I remember seeing that day.

My mom told Ryan and I one thing before we walked into the shelter to bring Bailey home.

"Do not talk about your sisters. We're not going to lie that you don't have sisters, we're just not going to talk about them," she said.

First question: the little interview put Ryan and



Sean Hastings

me to the test.

"Is everyone in the household 5 years of age?"

Test failed.

"What about Tara and Erin?"

I guess we were not the sharpest tools in the shed at 7 years old and 5 years old.

Our inability to follow a simple direction forced my mom to do something she did not want to do. Lie.

"Those are their cousins that come over once and a while to play," knowing damn well that my tiny 3-year-old sisters were in their little swing sets in the living room awaiting the arrival of the new puppy.

Like I said, this day is clear as day and the first visit we had to pick out Bailey. She had a broken leg, so she got that fixed and we were back a few days later

to take her home.

Fourteen years of my life I had the greatest dog by my side. The day we bought her, I remember my sister's babysitter was over and we all helped name her Bailey.

To this day I remember the memories of her on her first day of having a real life, a real home, a real family and plenty of room to run around.

My family bought another dog about five or six years ago for Bailey to have a friend. Bella. Bella is all of five pounds, while Bailey grew into a 70-pound guard dog for my family, with Bella thinking she was at that level.

It was weird going home for Thanksgiving break, having Bailey greet me at the door. First thing I noticed was the effect it had on Bella, too.

To this day and all the days after Bailey left, the talk comes up of "are we getting a new dog?" None of us wanted to do that. I did not want to replace Bailey.

But my friend Dwight told me this: "Don't think of it as replacing Bailey, think of it as giving another dog a chance at having as good a life as your family gave Bailey."

Fourteen years later, I think my family would agree, that is the best \$60 we ever spent. Her breed goes for \$1,500 to \$2,000, but she was worth far more than that.

RIP, Bailey girl.

Sean Hastings is a senior journalism major and can be reached at 581-2812 or [smhastings@ecu.edu](mailto:smhastings@ecu.edu).

## Do not be afraid to look to role models

As I am getting my grave and tombstone ready for finals week, I have been looking for ways to stay sane and positive so I can be productive.

I mostly find long "self-help" lists that tell me to put on a face mask and run a bath. While this can be relaxing, self-help does not always call for a spa day.

Sometimes self-help means reflecting on your flaws and figuring out how you will change for the better.

When I want to better my situations and self, I think of the people in my life who make me want to be better.

In high school when I was unsure of what career path I wanted to take, my mother helped steer me in the direction of writing, and my high school English teacher, Kristen DiGiorgio, an Eastern alumna, pushed me to join the mass communication class to write.

Generally, I never would have gotten involved in anything, and I had never been a part of any of the school's extracurricular activities, but her enthusiasm convinced me.



Abbey Whittington

I was news editor for the online publication, *The Boiling Point*, which just started after years of not having a newspaper.

I only wrote a couple stories and took a couple photos, but I found DiGiorgio's excitement for journalism contagious and declared it my major at Eastern.

Now that I am at Eastern and have been working for student publications since I walked

through the door, I still think about her enthusiasm when times get tough in the newsroom.

This helps me get through the overwhelming amount of stress I work through when getting closer to deadline.

When I think about procrastinating I think about my mother, who is strong and stubborn.

Usually my mother helps me in ways I do not always welcome; she is the voice of reason that nags me to get things done, but she is right and it is for my own good.

Something I learned in my art class with Katie Bretzlaff was to always set your work somewhere and stand back five feet to analyze it.

I think this concept can be used for anything we are working on. It helps to take a step back, really look at what you are doing and make a list of the pros and cons.

Reminding yourself of the pros can get you motivated to get through the cons, making for a more productive work time.

Abbey Whittington is a junior journalism major and can be reached at 581-2812 or [amwhittington@ecu.edu](mailto:amwhittington@ecu.edu).

## Editorial Board

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» **Overload**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

canceled classes or hiring more faculty, but the last option has not always been financially feasible.

"This is a matter that's in progress," Cross said. "It's premature to talk about any of the outcomes."

The EIU-UPI was originally tipped off by a member of the union that there were contractual violations happening in two departments.

These were the school of technology and family and consumer sciences.

Blitz said technology was the biggest offender when it came to these contractual violations.

Almost everyone in the department is at some level of overload, said Austin Cheney, chair of the school of technology.

In the last two years, the school of technology has had an influx of new students.

This, combined with the financial strain the university went through as a result of the budget impasse and not being able to hire more faculty, is what caused so much overload to be taken, Cheney said.

Cheney said the average amount of overload for a faculty member two years ago was 10 credit units.

This means they would have 34, which is one credit more than is allowed by the contract.

To fix this, Cheney said technology is cutting back on classes, consolidating sections and trying to get as many adjunct faculty members as it can to teach the classes.

"It's very difficult," Cheney said. "We're down about 80 students right now from where we were a year ago this time; frankly, that's the only reason we have the capability of getting people below 30 (credit units)."

Still, Cheney said the School of Technology will handle the issue and get people below 33 credit units in time for the spring semester.

"You've got these two conflicting forces if you will; on one hand, we're not financially viable as an institution to fund staffing positions (and) additional faculty," he said. "We want to grow, on the other hand, to increase revenue. The bottom line is if you get increased enrollment, there needs to be (adequate) staffing."

Technology professor Isaac Slaven is taking on 23 credit

Options for fixing the issue of faculty going over the 33 credit unit limit could include reassigning workload levels.

units this semester. He was originally going to do the same next semester, but this went down to 10 credit units after he was told he could not do 23 anymore.

Another technology professor, David Melton, was at 57 credit units at one point, but after evaluating the fall and spring semester, the department got him down to 33.

"I never knew that was in the contract," Melton said. "It's never been an issue."

Up to this point, he had been averaging 45 and a half credit units.

"I don't think most of the faculty knew that there was this 33 limit," Melton said.

Because their industry often requires working long hours, Melton and Slaven said taking on this overload does not bother them.

"Most of us have been there know how to work smartly, efficiently," Slaven said. "It's a little bit of extra time, but we're still working way less than someone in construction or manufacturing."

A couple of years ago, Slaven was working 50 credit

**"The bottom line is if you get increased enrollment, there needs to be (adequate) staffing."**

*-Austin Cheney, chair of the school of technology*

units. Last year, it was 44.

To cut down on his 50 credit units, he started doing less research, as he had extra research credit hours that counted.

Coordinating different areas, such as Applied Engineering and Technology, the School of Technology's honors program and the School of Technology's internships, takes credit units as well.

"I think this next spring I have to give them up," Slaven said. "I don't know how it's going (down); everybody's chasing their tails trying to figure something out since all of a sudden, it decided to be enforced."

Slaven said the department can make accommodations if a canceled class will hinder someone's graduation, but the student will miss out on the experience of the class. "(It's) frustrating because we don't get some kind of exigency for next semester," he said.

"It would be nice to say all right, we'll try to find people, but if we can't we don't want to cancel sections."

Out of 16 full-time faculty members in the department of family and consumer sciences, nine are projected to be in a regular overload of 29-33 credit units.

Melanie Burns, who became the interim chair of the department of family and consumer sciences on Jan. 3, 2017 said no one in the department has gone above 33 credit units this academic year, though it has in the past.

In the 2016-2017 academic year, two people were in violation of the 33 credit unit limit, something the family and consumer sciences department has "really worked" not to do this year, Burns said.

"There's so many factors to consider," she said. "You gotta teach the classes — and there are a variety of ways to do that."

For the family and consumer sciences department, this includes implementing a two-year rotation of courses and larger class sizes.

Some departments, such as communication studies, were on the list the EIU-UPI had of those going over overload, but have since made changes to make it so this is not the case.

To accommodate students, Marita Gronnvoll, associate chair of communication studies, said the department has taken measures to streamline classes as much as possible.

It has canceled on-campus classes, moving them to an online format or canceling one section of a class if there were two.

In some cases, lower division classes were canceled with the understanding that students could take them later.

While the department canceled more sections than it thought it would have to, Gronnvoll said communication studies was able to keep the ones absolutely needed to accommodate seniors.

"I've been advising students and able to get them in classes they need; as far as I know other advisers are doing the same thing," she said.

Gronnvoll pointed to the budget impasse as the main reason people have had to take on overload.

"Lots of faculty left, fleeing the state of Illinois," she said.

The communication studies department lost six faculty members last year.

Though the university and departments are still playing catch-up, Gronnvoll said she thinks think things are going to start returning to normal starting next year.

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» **Death**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Champaign County Coroner's Office conducted an autopsy of the child and said the cause of death was dehydration, starvation and malnutrition.

Bower said when police entered the residence on Monday, it was filled with garbage debris, food wrappers and animal feces.

The child was left unattended in the portable playpen with two peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and a vitamin bottle with a needle sized hole poked into the cap.

According to WEIU-TV, Weiss told police that a babysitter, Emily Snively, 18, of Charleston was allegedly supposed to watch the child.

She said there were no signs of malnourishment when she did watch him before.

Snively was relieved of all wrongdoing.

The investigation is still ongoing and Joel Shute, one of the two investigators on the scene, said cases with such high severity such as this one take time to resolve.

"An arrest, most of the time is the end of the story but with complications the arrest can merely be the most profound piece but not the final piece," Shute said.

Bower said Weiss had no prior convictions and her first court appearance is Dec. 11.

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## Shooter kills 2 in New Mexico

AZTEC, N.M. (AP) — Students hid in their classrooms, some behind locked doors or in closets, as a gunman opened fire Thursday inside a New Mexico high school, killing two classmates before he died.

Authorities and other officials in the small town of Aztec near the Colorado border have released few details other than to say the two victims attended Aztec High School. They have yet to release their names or identify the shooter.

No other injuries were reported, and it was not clear if the shooter died by suicide or was killed by police.

Bryn Divine, a senior, said she was sitting at her desk in her history class when she heard gunshots erupt down the hall. At first, it sounded as if someone was swinging a metal baseball bat against the lockers.

Then she heard an announcer over the school intercom tell students: "This is not a drill."

"I stayed in my desk, and I just prayed, 'Please just let this be over as soon as possible.' That was my first reaction," she said.

Sophomore Garrett Parker told Albuquerque television station KOAT that he also heard what he thought was banging on the lockers. Then it got louder and closer.

"Thankfully our teacher always locks the door no matter what. So he kept that locked," Parker said. "When they called over the intercom that it was not a drill, we went to the corner of the room out of sight from the door and just started hiding."

Gov. Susana Martinez called the shooting a heinous and horrific act and told reporters that teachers, school staff and law enforcement jumped in quickly to prevent more deaths. She didn't provide more details.

Aztec school officials say schools across town that shut down Thursday will likely stay closed Friday.

TODAY'S

## Study Tips:

Always remember to take regular study breaks.

Studies have shown that short, regular breaks can boost/improve focus and productivity. Study breaks can include a quick walk, a chat with a friend, or even fixing a warm drink. It's important to give yourself time to recover from studying.

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## Words of wisdom



JORDAN BOYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Savannah Perez, a sophomore English major, writes a final paper for her literature class at Booth Library Thursday night. "See, the key is to do well all throughout the course so you're not freaking out," Perez said about finals. "Definitely take a mental health day, take a break from it all."

The New York Times  
Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

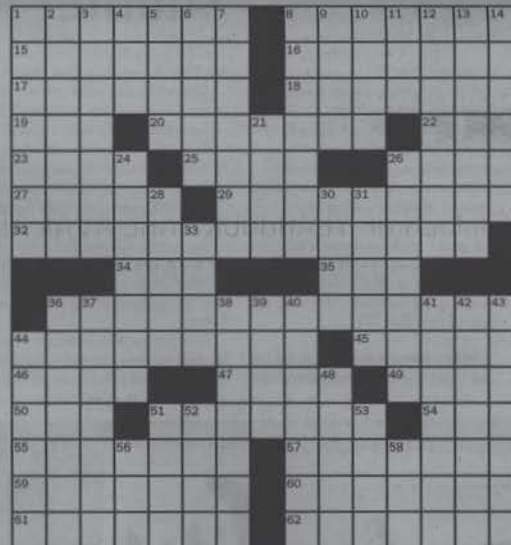
No. 1103

## ACROSS

- 1 "Save your excuses"  
8 Part of the Constitution  
15 Grant access  
16 Half of the digits have this  
17 Edible kernel  
18 Built up  
19 Cross-shaped mil. award  
20 Not so lenient  
22 You, overseas  
23 Death or destruction  
25 "the Agent" (old comic strip)  
26 Naval Academy students, informally  
27 Auntie (pretzel chain)  
29 Target of a heist  
32 Not let go of something  
34 In advance of
- 35 A to Z  
36 Platform for chatting  
44 Filmmaker whose directorial debut was "This Is Spinal Tap"  
45 "You're making me blush!"  
46 Forever and a day  
47 Suffragist Carrie Chapman  
49 Word after who, what, where, when, why or how  
50 Utterance made while shoking  
51 Hit 2014 musical based on a 1992 film  
54 Abbr. in a financial report  
55 White whales
- 57 English headwear with a short visor  
59 Time off  
60 Target, as an audience  
61 The Muses and others  
62 Like many of the Minions in "Despicable Me"

## DOWN

- 1 Pacific flatfish  
2 With a guest, on a guest list  
3 Penn State campus site  
4 DVD attachment?  
5 Much of a flock  
6 Car whose name means "reward"  
7 Ugandan city on Lake Victoria  
8 Finished  
9 Setting for Broadway's "The Light in the Piazza"  
10 Common sports injury  
11 They can help you get jobs  
12 Senator who was one of the assassins of Julius Caesar  
13 Go unused  
14 Destined to inherit the throne



PUZZLE BY KAMERON AUSTIN COLLINS AND BRENDAN EMMETT QUIGLEY

## ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

JOYS INGRAM PSY  
ALSO CICCERO RYE  
WELLBETHGIR IRA  
AORTA DUMAS  
SHIRT ITAKETAHT  
PONCHO DECAL  
IONA BANANA UBS  
THERESNOGNINRUT  
EAR MEDLEY EGGO  
BLISS GOWELL  
GUESSSOHW NISEI  
IPADS AHEAD  
STU ANDDONTMOC  
TOT RIVOLI AVER  
SPY YARNED SPRY

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12/11

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12/12

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- 21 Gold-certifying org.  
24 Things seen in a shower  
26 "Hero and Leander" poet  
28 Platoon V.I.P.  
30 Sadiq, London mayor elected in 2016  
31 Gorky Reservoir river  
33 Grocery section  
36 Stop wasting energy, say
- 37 Ohio school  
38 Boxes  
39 Source of a river  
40 Style symbolizing luxury and glamour  
41 Intense sobbing with a contorted face, in modern lingo  
42 Willful?  
43 Green bean, e.g.
- 44 Hoi polloi sorts  
48 God father?  
51 Tequila chaser  
52 It's used in preparing tamales  
56 "See here ..."  
56 "It's no ..."  
58 Previously

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# Eastern track welcoming new talent

By Tom O'Connor

Track and Field Reporter | @DEN\_Sports

The Eastern track and field team will head for the starting line to kick off the 2018 season, with five teams expected to compete for the Early Bird track tournament at Lantz Field House on Friday.

As the storied 2016-17 season effecuated successful returns, the baton has been handed off to the next group, relaying nothing less than high expectations after the men's and women's track and field teams won the OVC indoor championships. This year's squad has readied in preparation to take on such

a hefty load.

Coming off a season in which the Eastern men's and women's track and field teams seized conference supremacy, the team hurdled the ineludible crossroads this past offseason, as many of the decorated athletes from that squad have since graduated.

"While incoming talent could certainly invigorate the existing roster this past offseason, the Panthers brought on 15 freshmen to join the ranks. The transitions have posed an ever present quandary for the coaching staff.

"As a coaching staff, you never really replace good seniors, never," Eastern Track and Field coach Tom Akers said.

"So it will be interesting to see some of those emerging athletes that I have just spoken about. How large of an improvement they are going to make."

Much to the Panthers' misfortune, several unexpected injuries have crept into the fold, nearly days ahead of the 2017-18 season.

"We have been healthy all fall and just these last couple weeks we have had a few illnesses and injuries pop up, which is a little disappointing because some kids are not going to be able to compete now," said Akers.

The Panthers will compete against Western Illinois, Loyola-Chicago, Illinois State and Indiana State for the

meet today.

Eastern senior Haleigh Krupp finished last indoor season with top 25 honors in the high jump, setting OVC and Eastern track and field records, when she jumped 5' 11.25. Similarly, senior Davion McManis outperformed conference rivals at the championships, earning him a bronze medal in the long jump event at the OVC conference championships and a top 25 finish amongst NCAA in his event as well.

For a few of the teams participating in tomorrow's festivities, which include the 60-meter dash and the high jump, the season has already begun.

Loyola freshman Tyler Elmor, who

has been ranked in the top 60 in the men's 60-meter dash to start the season, registered a 6.93 mark at the Grand Valley State Holiday Open.

Another member of the Ramblers team, junior Natajah Simmons, ratcheted up an elusive feat in the women's 200-meter dash in 24.75 seconds time that, when juxtaposed with her top 40 ranking in the 60 meter dash, places her in the top echelon of college runners.

The field competitions are expected to begin at 2 p.m., while the running events have been scheduled for 4 p.m.

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## Transfer student Pedra Hicks ready for indoor season

By Alex Hartman

Track & Field/Cross Country Reporter | @DEN\_Sports

The Eastern track team took a slight blow as they lost a handful of star athletes this season, but Eastern did add a few new competitors that will look to fill in the holes and compete at a high level.

One of these new additions to the

team is a junior transfer student Pedra Hicks.

"There are a bunch of new freshman, some key returners and some promising transfer students that will help fill the holes on the team," coach Tom Akers said.

Hicks is originally from the south side of Chicago and came to Eastern from Central Arizona College after earning her associates degree in communications.

"I wanted to be closer to home and I just felt like this place was a good fit for me," Hicks said. "The atmosphere here is nice and this team is supportive and great. It's by far one of the best teams I've been a part of in my track career."

Hicks competes in a handful of events with her best being the 400-meter hurdles, 4x400 relay and 400-meter run.

She said she is very excited for the season to start and is wanting to be a major contributor to the overall success of the team.

"My goal is to break the 400-meter hurdles record. PR in my events, stay healthy and just have a overall good year," Hicks said.

She said she has high hopes for what she can do this season, and her solid work ethic and pre-meet rituals that consist of eating pasta the night before, ice baths, healthy eating the day of and praying will look to get her to her goals for this upcoming season.

The Early Bird track tournament will kick off at 2 p.m. Friday at the Lantz Fieldhouse. Field and track events will start at 4 p.m.

Alex Hartman can be reached at 581-2812 or [alhartman@eu.edu](mailto:alhartman@eu.edu).

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Today's Study Tip:

MAKE A STUDY PLAN

Time is precious - especially during finals week. This is why a study plan is essential. Study plans keep you organized, make the most of your time, and ensure that you're preparing for exams.

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# Eastern to have telling game on road

By JJ Bullock

Associate Sports Editor | @DEN\_Sports

Something has to give for the Eastern women's basketball team.

The team is currently riding a four-game losing streak where they seem to be a different team, not only game-by-game, but quarter-by-quarter.

At times, the Panthers look like a team that can compete with anyone, for example in the second quarter of their game against Evansville where they held the Aces to just five points and scored 17 of their own.

However, in other small sample sizes, Eastern looks like a team completely lost. This is what coach Matt Bollant felt sank the Panthers in their last game. A first quarter where they shot just 18 percent against Bradley displayed yet another point in time where the team could not find its way on the court.

Friday the Panthers will play Fort Wayne in a game where they will hope to put a product on the court that is consistent for four quarters.

"I think one of the things we are trying to get is a little more consistency on offense," Bollant said. "The other game against Bradley we took so many quick shots in that first quarter and we weren't making them. So, let's stop being impatient and let's really work to get a good shot instead of just an average shot."

In an effort to manufacture more consistency on offense, Bollant plans on using sophomore Danielle Berry more at point guard with plans of getting the ball to senior point guard Grace Lennox quicker and with hopefully more open scoring opportunities.

"Right now, there is a lot of possessions where when she (Lennox) passes it, she never touches it again and we are seeing if we can get the ball back in her hands a little better in possession before we take shots," Bollant said.



BRYAN BUND | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS  
Eastern forward Grace McRae protects the ball from a Northern Illinois defender in the Panther 93-64 loss to the Huskies Nov. 10. McRae is averaging 6.6 points per game this season for Eastern.

Junior guard Carmen Tellez will be coming out of the starting lineup for the Panthers game against Fort Wayne on Friday. She scored three points on 1-of-4 starting in her last game against Bradley.

Senior forward Jalisha Smith will be stepping in for Tellez. Bollant is hoping that Smith and her team-leading 5.9 rebounds per game will bring more physicality and help the team get off to better starts in games.

Fort Wayne has had struggles of its own this season, large in part because of both an offense and defense that rank last in the Summit League.

On offense, Fort Wayne averages a league worst 57.3 points per game and shoot 38.6 percent from the field and 31 percent from three-point range.

Four of Fort Wayne's typical starting five are averaging over nine points per game this season.

What Fort Wayne lacks in offensive

output, it does not exactly make up for in defensive prowess.

The Mastadons rank last in the Summit League in opponent field goal percentage (44.1 percent) and points per game (68.9).

Eastern is not focusing on its opponents struggles, rather the Panthers have spent the week trying to alleviate the pressure of thinking about winning all the time and getting wrapped up in the end result of the game.

"At the start of the Bradley game, you know we practiced so good, and all of the sudden at the start of the game we looked like a completely different team. So, we are talking about just the process and playing hard and controlling what we can control," Bollant said. "We can't control our opponents but let's control what we can control."

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## OPINION | MEN'S BASKETBALL

# Men's basketball facing crucial stretch

By Maher Kawash

Basketball Reporter | @DEN\_Sports

Just two wins through eight games is not really where the Eastern men's basketball team expected to be at this time of year.

It is also worth mentioning the Panthers have now dropped three straight games, but it is just non-conference play so it is OK right?

Well, not so much.

Eastern faces a vital stretch of its season in the next 10 games, because that non-conference schedule that can sometimes be taken lightly is nearing an end.

On the bright side, the Panthers have easily prepared themselves as well anyone else, with a tough set of games against San Diego State, Nebraska and Marquette.

While those appear to be some big name teams it is also worth taking a look at how good those teams actually are.

Yes, they offer up some tougher competition than an average non-conference slate usually could, but they are still beatable teams.

That is also why the Panthers have had four of their six losses come by four or less points.

But, it is time for Eastern to take a look ahead and start to mesh together ahead of OVC play.

The Jaguars come into the matchup offering a winnable game for the Panthers, as South Alabama is 5-4 but has wins against some lower level teams to this point.

That marked an end to what has been

a tough road trip for Eastern, which resulted in three losses.

It also stands as a chance for the Panthers to prove they can win games on the road considering all six of their losses have come there.

What is most important about this upcoming stretch though is the final two games that come before conference play, and that is because they will be played at Lantz Arena.

If there is any place for Eastern to build some momentum, there is not a better opportunity than coming off a possible road win and securing two wins at home.

One of those games may be tough to clinch though as it comes against a team that Eastern has already lost to this season in Western Illinois.

And unlike the Panthers have had, Western has found plenty of consistency on offense.

The Leathernecks have three players averaging at least 10 points per game with Dalan Ancrum leading the way at 19 points and six rebounds per game.

That is just something Eastern has been missing, but that is what this stretch of games can do.

It offers a time for the offense to click and find its groove considering it has been up and down to say the least.

The Panthers are desperate for consistency in this upcoming stretch as mid-game cold streaks have been the difference.

They will get a lighter test though when Saint Francis of Illinois comes to



BRYAN BUND | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS  
Eastern point guard Tyrell Lewis dribbles the ball in front of an Illinois defender on Nov. 3 at Lantz Arena. Lewis averages nine points per game.

town in the final matchup before the OVC opener against Murray State.

The need for momentum is at its greatest as well because of how the OVC slate opens up for Eastern.

The Panthers will have no easy task by

starting with four straight on the road, and it comes against some of the toughest competition in the conference with games against Austin Peay, Murray State and Morehead State.

Time will tell what Eastern team will

show up to play as both the good and bad have been clear throughout these first eight games of the season.

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